



## NUUANU/ PUNCHBOWL NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 12

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 530 SOUTH KING STREET ROOM 400 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96813  
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### MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2006 BOOTH DISTRICT PARK

**CALL TO ORDER:** With a quorum of eight (8) members present, Chair Canopin called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. He distributed packets to each Board member containing the reports of the emergency agencies and public representatives, and other assorted items necessary to complete the evening's agenda.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mason Aiona, Dean Asahina, James Bannan, Al Canopin, Jr., Richard Carreira (arrived at 7:46 p.m.), Paula Kurashige, Philip Nerney (arrived at 8:03 p.m.), Wendy Ogawa, Patt Spencer, Sylvia Young.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Rae Gee, Audrey Hidano, Remy Luria.

**GUESTS:** Capt. W. Soo (Honolulu Fire Department); Sgt. C. Lai, Lt. C. Loui, Officer R. Pagan (Honolulu Police Department – District 1); Sgt. G. Costa, Officer B. Iwani (Honolulu Police Department – District 5); Katie Churchey (Representative Corinne Ching's Office staff); Shirley Batad-Labisores (Representative Sylvia Luke's Office staff); Kent Cotton, Becky Paul (Queen Emma Hawaiian Civic Club); Dr. Keoni Devereaux, Jr. (UH-JABSOM/HCISR); Robert Lum, Lianne Misaki, Linda Misaki; Rachel M. Glanstein (Neighborhood Commission Office staff).

**VACANCIES:** There were no interested persons to fill the vacancies in either Subdistrict 1 or Subdistrict 2.

**The agenda was taken out of order to hear the reports of the Fire and Police Departments before the birthday recognition/celebration for Young.**

### FIRE AND POLICE:

**HONOLULU FIRE DEPARTMENT –** Capt. W. Soo provided two Firewise brochures and reported the following:

- 1) January statistics – 4 structure and 1 vehicle fire; 47 medical and 3 miscellaneous emergencies; they responded to a total of 55 alarms.
- 2) February statistics – 2 structure and 2 vehicle fires; 39 medical, 1 search/rescue and 6 miscellaneous emergencies; they responded to a total of 50 alarms.
- 3) Fire Safety Tip – Brush fires cause great damage. Dispose of all fires properly. Make and maintain a 30-foot wide firebreak by clearing vegetation surrounding structures. Formulate emergency plans. For more information, contact Denise Laitinen of Firewise at 281-3497 or go to [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org).

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

- 1) Spencer asked about the result of the accident on February 23, 2006. Capt. Soo responded that he wasn't there and so couldn't answer the question.
- 2) Kurashige noted that she was asked to report landslides on the ewa side of the Pali Highway, which seem to be getting larger; there is much concern from Niniko Street residents. Capt. Soo suggested that she call the State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to report landslides.

**Kurashige moved, and Ogawa seconded, to send a memo to Peter Young, Chairperson of DLNR, to recognize that there are two landslides on the ewa side of the Pali Highway across from Reservoir No. 4, which was adopted by unanimous consent.**

### HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT (HPD) –

**District 1, Honolulu:** Officer R. Pagan relayed the following information –



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- 1) February/January statistics: 0/1 robberies, 2/4 burglaries, 5/7 unauthorized entries into a motor vehicle (UEMVs), 8/8 auto thefts, 1/0 aggravated assaults, 1/2 simple assaults, 35/38 motor vehicle collisions (MVCs), 0/3 driving under the influence (DUIs), 0/0 sex assaults, 3/2 family offenses, 1/0 drug offenses, 0/3 graffiti offenses.
- 2) HPD District 1 has new commanders: Maj. Randall Macadangdang and Capt. Thomas Rossi.
- 3) Regarding the drug house on Ladd Lane off of Pauoa Road, the Narco-Vice Division made three arrests, which weren't just drug-related.
- 4) Officers have been making frequent checks of the Prospect Street area; there have been some arrests and the area seems to be improving.
- 5) Regarding the Pacific Heights prostitution problem, they are monitoring the situation and have made a few arrests.

Questions, comments and concerns followed:

- 1) Ogawa asked if officers caught the person they were chasing who burglarized a house on the 420 block of Puiwa Road. Officer Pagan doesn't know if they caught the individual.
- 2) Aiona inquired if officers could take away someone's moped if they don't stop when being chased by a police car. Officer Pagan responded that they can't take away the moped, but this particular case (from Lusitania Street to Pauoa) led to a chase on foot and they caught the individual. Aiona offered his compliments to the officers.
- 3) Young reported that in Maunawili, her neighbors two houses up dumped the remains of a tree into the streambed behind her yard and asked who she should call. Officer Pagan suggested she call DLNR and/or KHON's Action Line. Kurashige contributed that HPD has greater jurisdiction over City lands, DLNR has the jurisdiction over State lands, and private lands entail neighbor-to-neighbor issues.
- 4) Ogawa requested an explanation of the parking limits for cars. Officer Pagan answered that a car must be parked four feet from the top of the flare of the driveway, 10 feet from fire hydrants and 30 feet from stop signs. He acknowledged that there are many parking violations in the area. Ogawa added that Ahekololo and Pauoa are rife with parking violations; Officer Pagan will follow up.

**District 5, Kalihi:** Sgt. G. Costa gave the following information –

- 1) February/January statistics: 0/0 sex offenses, 1/0 robberies, 2/13 burglaries, 9/13 thefts, 8/10 UEMVs, 23/7 motor vehicle thefts, 1/4 assaults, 0/6 property damages, 0/0 drugs/narcotics, 0/0 family offenses, 0/1 DUIs, 23/27 MVCs, and 4/10 arguments.
- 2) HPD District 5 also has new commanders (Maj. Ballard went to the Training Division): Maj. Kirk Kendro and Capt. Moana Yu.
- 3) Drainage problems on the Pali Highway caused its closure recently.

Kurashige mentioned incidents where Nuuanu residents were missing items from their garages. She asked if it could be the Kidney Foundation truck taking unlabeled things from garages. Kurashige specifically noted a case last Saturday night (March 18) on Wood Street. Sgt. Costa had no information on it, but suggested that if something doesn't seem right, call 911.

**BIRTHDAY RECOGNITION/CELEBRATION FOR SYLVIA YOUNG:** A recess was taken from 7:41 p.m. to 7:51 p.m. to celebrate Young's February birthday (the February meeting was cancelled) with cake and ice cream.

Richard Carreira arrived at 7:46 p.m., making nine (9) members present.

**ATTENDANCE RECORD OF BOARD MEMBERS:** Chair Canopin referred everyone to study the attendance record of Board members, which was contained in the packets.

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A TIME-LIMIT POLICY:** This item was deferred.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF INVENTORY/STATUS OF COMMUNITY ISSUES:**

- 1) Kurashige suggested that abbreviations used throughout the inventory should be listed in a legend of some sort so that community members unfamiliar with government abbreviations could understand them better. She also proposed that it would be helpful to indicate a start date on the inventory.
- 2) Chair Canopin explained that on Page 1, under Kapaloala Place, in the seventh point, "our" office should read "Councilmember Rod Tam's" office.
- 3) Kurashige clarified that, on Page 3, under 3501 Nuuanu Pali Drive, people there really just want the street cleaned to allow the handicapped to get around.
- 4) Chair Canopin stated that, on Page 5, under Dowsett Highlands, this sentence should be added – "Philip Nerney has drafted a resolution in response."
- 5) Aiona offered an update for Booth District Park Abandoned/Derelict Vehicles (Page 4) – "Aiona worked with the City and a total of 6 abandoned vehicles were towed. There is now 1 left." He urged residents to call HPD about abandoned vehicles. Bannan advised that people contact the Abandoned Vehicle Division instead of HPD because HPD will just ticket everyone (instead of affixing abandoned notices). Robert Lum noted that there are a great deal of abandoned vehicles around 2124 Pauoa Road; two have been marked. Chair Canopin recommended that residents call the Abandoned Vehicle Division with the make, model, license plate and exact location of the vehicle. Aiona specified that once the numbers are drawn on the windshield, it will still take a minimum of 72 hours before the vehicle is towed; call 733-2530 to report abandoned vehicles in Pauoa. Kurashige added that HPD looks at the damage to the car and if the license plates match; if the vehicle is in the process of being stripped, notify HPD and they will take it as evidence.
- 6) Shirley Batad-Labisores, from Representative Sylvia Luke's Office, gave the following update to Page 2, under Nuuanu Stream Repair – "The City Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) has labeled the erosion as needing emergency repair and the application process is right now with the State Department of Health (DOH). The funds have been located to address the problem." She thanked Kurashige for her persistence on this issue.

Philip Nerney arrived at 8:03 p.m., during the above portion of the meeting, making 10 members present.

**Aiona moved, and Carreira seconded, to approve the Inventory of Concerns, which was adopted by unanimous consent.**

**Kurashige moved, and Spencer seconded, to send letters to appropriate agencies to request emergency repair funds for Nuuanu Stream, which was adopted by unanimous consent.**

**APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 18, 2005 AND JANUARY 17, 2006 MINUTES:**

**OCTOBER 18, 2005 MINUTES** – The following corrections were offered to the October 18, 2005 minutes:

- \* Page 1 – HFD – Questions, comments and concerns – second line – insert "Ho" between "Hale" and "Aloha Care Home".
- \* Page 5 – New Business – Abandoned Vehicle Tow Company Contract – Discussion – item no. 3 – strike out the sentence and insert the following sentence: "Spencer said that parked vehicles must be moved from Prospect Street on Memorial Day and Veteran's Day because of traffic going to the cemetery."
- \* Page 6 – Chair Comments and Announcements – item no. 2 – strike out the two instances of "November" and insert "October" in both places.

**Unanimous consent was used to approve the October 18, 2005 minutes as corrected, with Young and Ogawa abstaining (8-0-2).**

The November minutes were approved at an earlier meeting; the Board recessed in December.

**JANUARY 17, 2006 MINUTES – Spencer moved, and Ogawa seconded, to approve the minutes as circulated, which was adopted by unanimous consent.**

**TREASURER'S REPORTS:** Secretary/Treasurer Spencer reported the following –

- 1) January: The Operating Account expenses were \$77.09, leaving a balance of \$1,117.61. The Publicity and Refreshment Accounts did not incur any expenses, leaving balances of \$1,298 and \$120, respectively.
- 2) February: The Operating Account expenses were \$70.09, leaving a balance of \$1,047.52. The Publicity and Refreshment Accounts did not incur any expenses, leaving balances of \$1,298 and \$120, respectively.

**MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS:**

**REPRESENTATIVE SYLVIA LUKE –** Shirley Batad-Labisores distributed the report, congratulated the Board on doing a good job, and conveyed the following information:

- 1) The legislature recently reached the first crossover deadline when bills passed by the House or Senate move on to the other chamber for decision and the substantive resolution cutoff when the resolutions, that were submitted, will move on to be heard by their respective committees. Last Wednesday (March 15) was the cutoff for resolutions. Progress was made on many issues concerning this community such as the war on ice, and the protection of consumers from ID theft. The war on ice is ongoing.
- 2) Call Rep. Luke's office with any concerns.
- 3) She expressed her thanks for Kurashige's legitimate concerns over abandoned vehicles and Aiona's hard work to remove them. Abandoned vehicles are the first step toward car stripping for money for ice.
- 4) House Concurrent Resolution 288 / House Resolution 223 calls on the Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) and the Adjutant General to conduct a study of all public and privately owned dams in the state.
- 5) House Concurrent Resolution 287 / House Resolution 222 requests a study of all streams and drainage channels in the state.
- 6) House Concurrent Resolution 272 / House Resolution 212 urges DLNR to inspect all dams in the state to determine whether any of them are in imminent or in short-term danger of failure.

Dr. Keoni Devereaux commented that the resolution to eliminate commercial vendors at the Nu'uuanu Pali lookout should specify food vendors, so as not to keep out buses giving historical tours. He thanked Rep. Luke and Sen. Chun Oakland for paying attention to the problem. A resident remarked that the food vendors are still at the lookout. The contract between the food vendors and DLNR was included in the packet and Chair Canopin indicated that the contract is valid until May 31, 2008.

**The agenda was taken out of order to consider the resolution to eliminate commercial vendors at the Nu'uuanu Pali lookout.**

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES (DLNR) TO ELIMINATE COMMERCIAL VENDORS AT THE NU'UANU PALI LOOKOUT (the amended, finally adopted resolution is attached):** Discussion ensued –

- 1) Kent Cotton, the creator of the original resolution, suggested that "commercial" be changed to "commercial food". He mentioned that if it's not possible to remove the food vendors completely, then they should at

least be relocated to the side. As of two months ago, there were no restrooms, which the vendor promised to provide. Craft vendors also aren't desired up there.

- 2) A resident asked why Diamond Head wasn't included in the resolution. Kent Cotton explained the historical significance of the Nu'uanu Pali lookout. The resident recommended that the resolution be passed through legal counsel to see if it would apply to everything. Shirley Batad-Labisores answered that the Nu'uanu Pali lookout is different than other places because it's noted as a preserved historical area.
- 3) Carreira questioned if the main concern is the location of the vendors and was assured that it is. Dr. Keoni Devereaux added that the vendors stay from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

**During discussion, unanimous consent was used to amend the resolution by: (a) inserting in the title and in the first resolving clause "(excluding licensed PUC vehicles)" after "commercial vendors"; (b) striking out of the resolving clause "by the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs at its 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in Kohala, Hawaii, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of October 2005, that the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs" and inserting "by the Nu'uanu/Punchbowl Neighborhood Board"; (c) striking out the last paragraph referring to the 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs at Kohala, Hawaii; and (d) adding the Mayor and Hawaiian Civic Club to the parties receiving copies of the resolution (the last resolving clause).**

**Kurashige moved that the Board adopt the resolution to eliminate commercial vendors (excluding licensed PUC vehicles) from the Nu'uanu Pali lookout, as amended, which was adopted by unanimous consent.**

**The agenda was resumed.**

**RESOLUTION 05-342 – PROPOSAL TO EXEMPT COUNTY COUNCILS FROM THE SUNSHINE LAW:** Chair Canopin turned the gavel over to Vice Chair Kurashige. He explained that there had been a misconception that Councilmember Tam had created this resolution, but it was actually introduced by Councilmember Cachola.

Young noted that the City Council mandated Neighborhood Board member attendance at Sunshine Law training and now they are trying to exempt themselves. Canopin stated that they really can't exempt themselves from the Sunshine Law, which is probably why the resolution was not adopted by Council.

Vice Chair Kurashige returned the gavel to Chair Canopin.

**KAPALOALA PLACE WIDENING PROJECT:** Robert Lum gave some background on this issue – he had wanted to build an addition on his property, but was told that road widening was planned there and that Kapaloala Place was designated an improvement district. With improvement districts and road widening, the property owners usually pay about one-third of the costs and the City pays the other two-thirds. Lum requested that the City hold an informational meeting for residents in the area, but they were hesitant. He also hand-carried a letter to Governor Lingle. From July 2005 to the present, he has received no response. Chair Canopin previously suggested that Lum call the Mayor's Office of Information and Complaints. Eugene Lee, the Deputy Director of the City Department of Design and Construction (DDC) wrote to him that the area is privately owned and so can't be an improvement district. Lum had to respond to explain that it wasn't his idea to make the area an improvement district and he doesn't want it. Chair Canopin agreed to place the item on the agenda to clarify the situation. Young added that most of the properties in the valley are under the road widening and improvement restrictions; her house has a required 30-foot setback. Lum contributed that everyone in the area is affected by that setback. Ogawa asked Lum if emergency vehicles can get through on Kapaloala Place; Lum affirmed that they can.

**Carreira moved, and Asahina seconded, to expedite a response, concerning the Kapaloala Place Road Widening Project, from the City administration, by letter written by Chair Canopin, which was adopted by unanimous consent.**

**RESOLUTION 06-087 – REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF THE CITY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING (DPP) TO RECOMMEND APPROPRIATE STANDARDS FOR MOUNTAINSIDE LAND WHERE DEVELOPMENT IS PROPOSED:** Chair Canopin asked if the Board supported this City Council resolution in concept, and if they had any comments or suggested amendments. **Nerney moved, and Bannan seconded, that the Board support the concept of Resolution 06-087, which was adopted by unanimous consent.**

**RESOLUTION 06-088 – REQUESTING THAT DPP CONDUCT AN AREA DRAINAGE STUDY FOR NUUANU VALLEY:** Kurashige moved, and Asahina seconded, that the Board support the concept of Resolution 06-088, which was adopted by unanimous consent.

**RESOLUTION 06-089 – ASSIGNING TO THE DIRECTOR OF DPP A PROPOSAL TO AMEND ORDINANCE 86-18, ZONING MAP NO. 5 (KALIHI-NUUANU) RELATING TO THE REZONING OF CERTAIN LAND SITUATED AT NUUANU, OAHU, HAWAII:** Kurashige moved, and Nerney seconded, that the Board support the concept of Resolution 06-089, which was adopted by unanimous consent.

**BILL 37 – REGULATING FOR AN INTERIM PERIOD DEVELOPMENT ON LOTS WITH AN AVERAGE GRADE OF 20% OR MORE IN NUUANU VALLEY IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU:** Kurashige moved, and Asahina seconded, that the Board support the concept of Bill 37, which was adopted by unanimous consent.

**DOWSETT HIGHLANDS SUBDIVISION:**

**RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF UPSLOPE LANDS IN THE NUUANU/DOWSETT AREAS; AND FOR THE CITY COUNCIL AND CITY ADMINISTRATION TO CONSIDER THE RE-ZONING OF THE SUBJECT LANDS TO P-2, A GENERAL PRESERVATION DISTRICT (attached) –** Kurashige moved, and Asahina seconded, to adopt the resolution, which was adopted by unanimous consent.

**RESOLUTION TO REQUEST THE STATE OF HAWAII TO PROVIDE FUNDING IN THEIR FY2007 BUDGET FOR DLNR TO IMMEDIATELY IMPLEMENT A TOPOGRAPHICAL SURVEY THROUGHOUT NUUANU VALLEY, TO ASSESS THE POTENTIAL SAFETY HAZARD OF FALLING BOULDERS AND ROCKS, MUDSLIDES, EROSION PROBLEMS, TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO CORRECT THE PROBLEMS, AND TO INCLUDE INTRODUCING/PASSING LEGISLATION TO PROHIBIT DEVELOPMENT AT ALL IDENTIFIABLE PROBLEMATIC LOCATIONS (the amended, finally adopted resolution is attached) –** Chair Canopin noted that the resolution should include FY 2008 as well, since the deadline may have passed for the FY 2007 budget; **the resolution was amended to include "/2008" after "FY2007" and before "BUDGET" by unanimous consent.** Young suggested that the resolution include other areas, such as the hillsides of Punchbowl, Pacific Heights, and Papakolea. Nerney explained that, being keeping the limited scope of Nuuanu Valley, a template is formed for other areas, and right now, it's Nuuanu that needs to be addressed.

**Kurashige moved, and Aiona seconded, to adopt the resolution, as amended, which was adopted by unanimous consent.**

Discussion continued. Kurashige added that the Governor gave \$5.2 million to Puunui to help with the falling rocks, and people are killed on the Nuuanu side of the valley and get no help.

**INVENTORY/STATUS OF COMMUNITY ISSUES – UPDATE:** Shirley Batad-Labisores offered an update to the Inventory of Community Concerns – Page 8, Namilimili Street – add this response "Trees of Hawaii is the contractor for the tree trimming. They cut only a few branches to clear the utility lines. There are still problems of trees encroaching on property. Rep. Luke's Office will continue to follow up."

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**RATIFICATION OF PRE-ESTABLISHED LOCATION TO HOLD REGULAR BOARD MEETINGS –** Chair Canopin deferred this item.

**RESOLUTION TO REQUEST AN IMMEDIATE "HOLD" ON ALL ACTIONS OF HAWAII COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (HCDA) REGARDING KAKA'AKO MAKAI DEVELOPMENT –** Spencer noted that this development may set a dangerous precedence – two luxury condominium buildings are permitted, then that opens the door for more. **Spencer moved, and Bannan seconded, to support the resolution to request an immediate "hold" on all actions of the HCDA regarding Kaka'ako Makai development (adopted by the Ala Moana / Kaka'ako Neighborhood Board No. 11 on November 22, 2005), which was adopted by unanimous consent, with Nerney abstaining.**

**CHAIR & VICE CHAIR'S COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- 1) Kurashige announced that the next meeting of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization (OMPO) on the Oahu Regional Transportation Plan 2030 (ORTP 2030) will be held on Thursday, March 23, at 2 p.m., at Honolulu Hale, in Room 205. They plan to delete 13 projects and add 11 projects to the ORTP 2030. Chair Canopin noted that any comments need to be received by OMPO by March 31, 2006.
- 2) Chair Canopin stated that he received a response from the Board of Water Supply (BWS) regarding the Nuuanu Water System Improvement Project, which was included in the Board members' packets.

**MESSAGE TO THE COMMUNITY:** Chair Canopin realized that this item was skipped, so he returned to it.

**COUNCILMEMBER ROD TAM** – Carreira read the following message: Councilmember Tam sends his aloha and is pleased to report that the City Council has passed new legislation to alleviate the real property tax assessments, which have burdened many in this community. These bills, which are highlighted in Councilmember Tam's newsletter, have come about through the public hearing process, where there has been much input from the community regarding this issue. He thanks all those who have participated in this process to help prevent such escalated tax assessments in the future. Currently, Councilmember Tam is working with his colleagues on the FY2007 budget. He will do his best to prioritize the City's funds for the community's health and safety needs, road maintenance and other core services provided by the City. He welcomes any suggestions anyone has regarding the City's budget and other pending legislation. If Councilmember Tam can be of assistance to you, please feel free to call him at 547-7006. If you wish to receive his monthly newsletter by email, please call his assistant, Shawn Hamamoto, at 527-5570. Councilmember Tam extends his thanks.

**SENATOR SUZANNE CHUN OAKLAND** – Aiona read the following message: There are 701 2006 bills that are still alive, relating to affordable housing, public education, veteran affairs, identity theft, support for caregivers, early childhood education, services for people with disabilities, prevention and treatment of substance abuse, stricter penalties for law violators, incentives for alternative energy sources, and much more. For full descriptions of bills, their status, who introduced the measures, etc., please feel free to access the State Capitol website at [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov) or call the office at 586-6130. Sen. Chun Oakland extends her aloha.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Submitted by: Rachel M. Glanstein, Neighborhood Assistant

Reviewed by: Chair Al Canopin, Jr. and Secretary Patt Spencer